

thin by the war on terrorism or maybe potentially could be down the road?

The President. I'm satisfied.

Secretary Rumsfeld. We discussed that in the meeting, and it's a fair question. Needless to say, when you have a spike in activity, a crisis in Iraq, it is important to review those questions. Dick Myers and his folks in the military review them continuously.

We have found there are literally two or three—well, about two dozen things we can do that we reduce stress on the force, and the cost of adding end strength is significant. The time it takes to bring them in, recruit them, train them, equip them means there is a significant lag. So it's not something one does quickly. And as a result, we've got a major effort going on to take advantage of all the things we can do to increase the kinds of ways we can relieve that stress on the force. And it looks to me like we're going to be able to do that.

And on the other hand, our country can afford to pay for forces at the level that can help defend and protect us. And to the extent at any point it looks as though an end-strength increase is appropriate, we obviously would recommend it, but we certainly don't see the evidence of that at the present time.

The President. Thank you.

President's Vacation

Q. Any new 100-Degree Club members?

The President. Yesterday we added one.

Q. Do we know him?

The President. A Secret Service agent.

Q. Are you going running today?

The President. No, I'm not.

Q. Did Dick Cheney catch anything?

The President. Dick Cheney—he's a great fly fisherman. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:47 a.m. at the Bush Ranch. In his remarks, he referred to Assistant Secretary of State for Nonproliferation John S. Wolf; L. Paul Bremer III, Presidential Envoy to Iraq; and Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany. Secretary Rumsfeld referred to Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs Larry DiRita. A reporter referred to former Vice President Al Gore. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

August 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, where he had his annual physical examination and visited U.S. military personnel injured in operations in Iraq.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX.

August 3

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with members of the U.S. women's gymnastics team to congratulate them on winning a gold medal at the Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic.

August 4

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

August 5

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the evening, the President had dinner with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and Deputy Secretary of State Richard L. Armitage.

The President announced his intention to nominate David L. Lyon to be Ambassador to Kiribati.

The President announced his intention to nominate William A. Chatfield to be the Director of Selective Service.

August 6

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had a meeting and then lunch with Secretary Powell and Deputy Secretary Armitage.

August 7

In the morning, the President had intelligence and national security briefings.

August 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Vice President Dick Cheney, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard B. Myers, USAF, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, and other officials to discuss military issues.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released August 2

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released August 4

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released August 5

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released August 7

Transcript of a press gaggle by Deputy Press Secretary Claire Buchan

Advance text of remarks by National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice at the 28th Annual Convention of the National Association of Black Journalists

Released August 8

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 2859

**Acts Approved
by the President**

NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.